Renovation of BRPL

2073. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for not renovating Bongaigaon Refinery to produce high quality diesel;

(b) whether Government have decided not to install new better machinery in Bongaigaon Refinery for the purpose; and

(c) whether new machineries have been installed in Digboi, Guwahati and Numaligarh Refineries for achieving this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) In order to upgrade the existing diesel quality of Bongaigaon Refinery and Petochemicals Limited (BRPL) to meet the quality specification laid down by the Experts Committee on Auto Fuels, investments to the tune of Rs. 500 crore is required which may not fetch commensurate returns. Hence, various alternatives of upgrading the diesel quality are being explored by Indian Oil Corporation, the holding company of BRPL, in consultation with BRPL.

(c) Diesel quality upgradation facilities to produce Bharat Stage-ll quality diesel are being installed at Digboi and Guwahati refineries. Facilities to produce Bharat Stage-ll diesel already exist at Numaligarh Refinery Limited.

Quality control in public sector refineries

2074. DR. ABRAR AHMED: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether various steps taken by Government to improve the quality of diesel, petrol and other products produced by the public sector refineries have achieved the desired results;

(b) whether there is any plan for bringing further improvements in quality; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS {SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As per the road map approved by the Government for vehicular emission norms, it is proposed to introduce petrol and diesel to meet Bharat Stage-ll and EURO-MI equivalent vehicular emission norms from 1st April 2005 and 1st April 2010 respectively in the entire country. In respect of certain identified cities, it is proposed to introduce Bharat Stage-ll and EURO-III equivalent norms from 1st April 2003 and 1 st April 2005 respectively.

Basic amenities at Mehar Ki Devi Tample in Satna, M.P.

†2075. SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the pilgrims visiting the Mehar Ki Devi, a religious place of Hindus situated in Satna have to face the problems of roads, electricity, water and accommodation and whether the Government can take over the tample with a view to take the responsibilities of making all the arrangements; and

(b) what are the barriers before the Central Government in way of taking over the temple of Mehar Ki Devi because it is one of the famous pilgrimages in Northern India?

THE MINISTER OFTOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) The State Government of Madhya Pradesh has reported that there is availability of road, electricity, water and accommodation for the pilgrims visiting Mehar Ki Devi. The State Government has no proposal to take over the temple. Also the Archaeological Survey of India has no proposal at present under consideration to take over the temple under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958.

Outcome of the meeting of World Tourism Mart

2076. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of World Tourism Mart was held in the country in November, 2002;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.